



CALIFORNIA
NURSES
ASSOCIATION



NATIONAL NURSES
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Nursing Practice & Patient Advocacy Alert

Co-Signing LVN Charting

QUESTION:

WHAT IS THE POSITION OF THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING (BRN) REGARDING REGISTERED NURSES CO-SIGNING LVN CHARTING?

ANSWER:

It is the position of the Board of Registered Nursing that there is no need for an RN to co-sign for an LVN, either on the medication record or in the nurse's notes. The LVN has a legal license and therefore accountability for LVN practice. Co-signing implies validation of the accuracy of the charted information and unless the RN was side-by-side with the LVN, it is doubtful that the RN could routinely validate the LVNs charting. (Source: BRN Letter dated 11/3/03)

If you have further questions, want a copy of the letter, need more information or help, please call CNA's Nursing Practice Program at 510/273-2200 or send email to nursingpractice@calnurses.org.

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